



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 10/1/2024 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation Follow Up **Arrival:** 9:10 AM **Departure:** 1:00 PM

CCLC-35847

Bright Beginnings Learning Academy

2982 Flat Shoals Rd. Decatur, GA 30034 DeKalb County
(404) 254-3475 bbla2982@yahoo.com

Regional Consultant

Jessica Johnson

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jessica.johnson@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient. Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules. Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules. Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
10/01/2024	Complaint Investigation Follow Up	Good Standing	
07/15/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
02/05/2024	Complaint Closure	Good Standing	

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	A/Front	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	2	17	C	26	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B/Left	Infants	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Free Play
Main	C/Lower	GA PreK	2	10	C	31	C	43	C	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 68			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Two	A		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Two	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	6	C	11	C	NA	NA	Centers
			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 18			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				
Total # Children this Date: 39			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 86			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A/Concrete	49	C
Main	B	196	C

Comments

An on-site complaint investigation was conducted on October 1, 2024. Investigative findings were concluded on October 1, 2024. Background checks were all reviewed on October 1, 2024.

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>, for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)



Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Complaint Investigation Follow Up:

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2024

Corrected on 10/1/2024

.08(1) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed the children records complete.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Correction Deadline: 11/1/2024

Corrected on 10/1/2024

.06(4) - Citation corrected. The Consultant discussed with the Director to add a screen on the window to classroom A building two so the window can be opened for the ventilation.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.06(4) - The Consultant discussed with the Director adding a screen to the window in classroom A building two so the window can be opened for ventilation.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2024

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(11) - The Consultant discussed with the Provider that floor coverings be tight, smooth, free of odors and washable or cleanable. The Consultant discussed with the Director the bubbling in the floor on the right side of classroom C/Lower.

Correction Deadline: 10/31/2024

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2024

Corrected on 10/1/2024

.25(13) - Citation corrected. The Consultant discussed with the Director that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children.

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the front fence on the left side measured at three feet nine inches when four feet was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2024

Recited on 10/1/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that there was four inches of measurable resilient surface under the fire pole of the wooden play structure on the top left side of playground B, when six inches was required. It was further determined that there two inches of measurable resilient surface on the yellow slide of the wooden play structure on the top left side of playground B, when three inches was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency.

Correction Deadline: 10/15/2024

Recited on 10/1/2024

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2024

Corrected on 10/1/2024

.26(9) - Citation corrected. The Consultant discussed with the Director monitoring the splintering wood on both wooden play structures on playground B.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(9) - The Consultant discussed with the Director cleaning the broken glass in the front of classroom A in building two.

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2024

Safety

591-1-1-.05 Animals

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.05(1) - - The Consultant discussed with the Director that based on the standards and accreditation best practice criteria of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), reptiles (e.g., lizards, iguanas, turtles, snakes, etc.) should not be allowed as classroom pets due to the risk of salmonella infection.

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2024

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)

Met

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2024

Corrected on 10/1/2024

.36(4)(a) - Citation corrected. The annual safety check was observed current.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

Correction Deadline: 7/29/2024**Corrected on 10/1/2024****.30(1)(b)1 - Citation corrected. The cots in building two classroom A were observed in good repair.****Staff Records**

Correction Deadline: 7/15/2024**Corrected on 10/1/2024****.09(1)(a) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed the criminal records checks complete.****Correction Deadline: 7/15/2024****Corrected on 10/1/2024****.09(1)(b) - Citation corrected. The Consultant observed the criminal records checks complete.****Staffing and Supervision**

Finding

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that the staff person stepped out of classroom B/Left onto playground A/concrete to retrieve a stroller leaving six infants in classroom B/left unsupervised for two minutes.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 10/1/2024**Recited on 10/1/2024**